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VOLUME V NUMBER 10 DECEMBER 1959

AROUND THE WORLD WITH THE CHURCH

FOREIGN

UMENICAL PATRIARCH VISITS EASTERN ORTHODOX PATRIARCHS. Ecumenical riarch Athenagoras, spiritual leader of the world's Orthodox Christians, left the Phanar, nbul, on November 16th for an extensive tour of the Orthodox Patriarchates of the Near and idle East. This is the first time in modern history that the Turkish government has let the riarch leave Constantinople (Istanbul).

ompanied by a large entourage of patriarchal officials, the Patriarch visited Patriarch odosius VI of Antioch, first. Arriving in Damascus, he was warmly welcomed by the Syrian riarch, as well as by high Syrian government officials. The Premier of Syria gave a dinner is honor and termed His Holiness as 'the hope and joy of world Orthodoxy, and a God-sent ssenger'. Wherever the Patriarchal entourage moved, large crowds of Christians and Mos- s greeted him with cries of joy.

velling by private railroad car, the Ecumenical Patriarch left Damascus and arrived in man, Jordan, on Nov.20th. The Patriarch celebrated Divine Liturgy at the shrine of ancient istendom, the Church of the Resurrection. Going thence to Jerusalem, he was welcomed by Orthodox Patriarch Benedict, with whom he celebrated the Divine Liturgy at the Church of Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. Discussions, while in Jerusalem, were also held with leading hodox elements of the area regarding the forth-coming Pan-Orthodox Synod, July of 1960, at des. At this discussion, Patriarch Athenagoras warned that atheism and materialism will troy 'Christianity if the Churches remain disunited'.

ving Jerusalem, the Patriarchal party made its way to the ancient monastery of St.Catherine Wady-el-der, on Mt. Sinai; this is the Seat of Orthodox Archbishop Porphyrios. From there, proceeded to Cairo, Egypt to meet with the Patriarch of Alexandria, Christopher II. In Cairo, riarch Athenagoras praised President Nasser of Egypt for his 'heroic spirit', adding that ray God that He may lend you support to realize your great mission'. After a week spent Egypt, with the Alexandrian Patriarch, Athenagoras and party departed for Istanbul, where was received back with a warm welcome from civil and Church officials.

ompanying the Patriarch, on his tour, were three Synod members: Metropolitans Iakovos Derkon, Maximos of Sardis, and Iakovos of Asia Minor. Numerous other minor officials le up the balance of the party.

The Pan-Orthodox Synod, referred to above, is being sponsored by the Ecumenical Patriarchate. It will be the first such meeting in nearly forty years. Besides bringing together many of the Eastern Orthodox bodies, the meeting is expected to have representatives of the Armenian, Jacobite, Coptic, Ethiopian and Old Catholic Churches present. The July meeting of 1960 will be for the purpose of determing the agenda of a full scale Pan-Orthodox Synod, which reportedly will convene in 1961 or 1962 at Mt. Athos, Greece. - ED.

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ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH ATHENAGORAS TO BE GUEST OF POPE. Patriarch Athenagoras of Istanbul, spiritual leader of Eastern Orthodoxy, was quoted in Beirut as having said that he will shortly visit the Pope in Rome, where he will be his guest.

While visiting in Beirut(Lebanon), Patriarch Athenagoras, who is in the midst of a tour of the Middle East, had a meeting with Archbishop Paolo Bertolo, Papal Nuncio to Lebanon. At this meeting, the Patriarch disclosed that he had maintained direct relations with Pope John for many months. In the Patriarch's own words: 'I have always had the most friendly relations with the Vatican and its representatives in America, Europe and Asia. I was among the first to congratulate the Pope on his election. We saw a great deal of each other in the old days before our promotions to the head of our Churches.'

Pope John first met Athenagoras when both served in the Balkans - the Pope, then known as Archbishop Giuseppe Roncalli, was Apostolic Delegate to Bulgaria; the Patriarch, at that time was serving as the secretary to an archbishop of the Orthodox Church and made visits to other parts of the Balkans.

In 1931, Athenagoras was appointed as Archbishop of New York, a post he held for more than 17 years before becoming Patriarch of the Ecumenical Throne in Istanbul.

- In recent months, two Protestant visitors reported their impressions of Patriarch Athenagoras, as a result of personal conversations with him. Both of these travelers wrote of their experiences in two different religious publications:

  - H.Parr Armstrong, a minister of Disciples of Christ, reported his visit in the December issue of 'World Call'. Mr.Armstrong tells of being greeted by the Patriarch with a gesture of hospitality, known as 'The Sweet of the Spoon', and of having the Patriarch say to him:

    'We have the same Lord and the same gospel. Peace be upon us'.

    Mr.Armstrong responded by saying:

    'Your Holiness, we are bound together in the World Council of Churches'.

    This elicited a further statement from the Patriarch, who elaborated:

    'We have the same Jesus Christ, the same gospel, tradition and destiny. We shall unite in doctrine, but in love and understanding. Even the disciples were not united. Every church preserves its own doctrine, but we are united in Christ. I do my utmost to bring the churches together. The World Council is doing this, too. It is the great movement in Christianity. In the United Nations, countries work together. Why should not the churches work together?.....The churches will not survive without a social program today.'

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- In the second reporting, Betty Thompson, Public Relations Director of the U.S.Conference of the World Council of Churches, told of her visit in the November issue of the Greek Orthodox Observer. She reported that the Patriarchate, located in the Phanar section of Istanbul, impresses a visitor with its extreme, Spartan simplicity and plain furnishings;(in contradistinction to the 'show' of the Vatican) the Patriarch, himself, welcomed her with an expression of gratitude to the Council and its membership for the aid sent in the late autumn of 1955, when extreme tension and suffering was abounding in Istanbul. The Patriarch had already declared his feelings on Ecumenical Relations, thru Archbishop Iakovos at the WCC meeting at the Isle of Rhodes last August.

  AREO here gives it for the benefit of interested readers:

  '....the Ecumenical Patriarchate, faithful to its ecumenical tradition, will continue its ecumenical course with even greater decisiveness, without leaning either to the 'right' or to the 'left', for ecumenicity is not served by deviations or detours. Ecumenicity in the true sense cannot be a matter of compromise or mediation. True ecumenicity, in principle, is a return in repentance to Christ, Who, as His greatest interpreter, the Apostle Paul teaches us : 'is our peace Who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us'(Eph. 2:14). That is the real essence of true ecumenicity, at least as it is understood by the Ecumenical Patriarch. That is why the Ecumenical Patriarchate has never hesitated to speak freely and conscientiously to all the Churches: Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Anglican, Old Catholic, and the Churches of

comprise the World Council of Churches'.

In order to clarify the exact position that the Ecumenical Patriarch will take on his visit to Rome, it must be understood that he has already explained the difference in the meaning of the two words 'Union' and 'Unity'. Patriarch Athenagoras has said that 'Unity' means harmony, accord, conformity between two Churches, while 'union' signifies their uniting into one. Quoting him exactly: 'A dogmatic union between the two Churches (i.e.-Rome and Orthodoxy) is impossible. The brotherly talks...with Roman Catholic Church officials...concern not 'union', but the 'unity' of the two Churches'.-ED.

In keeping with the meaning of the word 'union', it is interesting to note the changing attitude of some elements of the Roman Church. Rev. Dr.Thomas Sartory, OSB, a leader of the Una Sancta movement, said in a recent speech in Salzburg,Austria, that the Roman Church would do well to refer to Protestants and Orthodox as 'separated brethren', rather than as 'heretics and schismatics'. He also said that 'It is a mistake to blame the Protestants and Orthodox for the division of the Church. Nor should the reunion of the Church be envisaged merely as a return of those churches to the bosom of Rome. The aim should rather be unity when, where and how God wills'. (Note: It is indeed exemplary when a spokesman for Rome asks that God's Will be done, in connection with any form of public,social or inter-religious life. - ED.)

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LIGIOUS LEADERS CALL ON ROME TO ACT ON RELIGIOUS LIBERTY. nbers of the Greek Orthodox Church, the Lutheran World Federation, World Presbyterian ance, World Methodist Council, Church of England, Baptist World Alliance, International gregational Council, World Convention of Churches of Christ, Pentecostal World Confer-e, and Society of Friends met early in December in Geneva, Switzerland.

o the meeting was non-public, the churchmen did release a statement, in which they ed upon the Roman Catholic Church to speak clearly on the issue of religious liberty in r forthcoming 'ecumenical' council. The issue of religious freedom in Roman Catholic ntries has long been one which has stirred the Christian world. Acts of murder, beatings, orism, prejudice, etc. have headlined news reports thruout the presses of the Free World out the years. Preponderance of such acts of religious oppression have come mainly from n countries, Italy and Spain.

In Bogota, Colombia, the House of Representatives has just requested three ministers of the presidential cabinet to appear before it to explain treatment which Protestants have been receiving in that country. This action follows, within a few weeks, a formal presentation to the House of a 'memorial' signed by 14,000 Protestants; the document tells of the constant persecution of non-Catholics in Colombia and requests the government to take acts to safeguard the liberty of religious worship, as set forth in the Constitution of Colombia.

Over 116 Protestants have been killed in Colombia since 1948, because of religious persecution; during the same period, 66 Protestant schools have been destroyed by fire or dynamite and an additional 200 other schools forced to close by civil pressure.- ED.

It is interesting that all these acts of hate and violence have been done in the 'Name of God' and according to the 'Will of God'. - ED.

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EST ORTHODOX PRIEST IN GREECE DIES AT 103. Father Nicolas Tsagarakis, st Greek Orthodox priest, died in Crete at the age of 103. He had carried on an active istry until his 92nd year.

out his life, Father Nicolas was famed for never having been sick or consulted a doctor. ained in 1885, he had long been active for the liberation of Crete from Turkish domination.

- Also dead in Athens was Archbishop John Philippoussis at the age of 85. He was the o ranking Roman Catholic prelate in Greece. Born at Tinos, he had been the Roman bis of Athens since 1927. He died of a heart attack in Athens, but was buried at Tinos.

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TITO DECORATES ORTHODOX, MOSLEM CLERGYMEN. Decorations were conferr at Belgrade on 109 Roman Catholic, Serbian Orthodox and Moslem clergymen on the occas of the 16th anniversary of the present regime in Yugoslavia.

The majority, of those receiving the honors, belong to the government-sponsored priest as iations of the three religious bodies represented.

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RUSSIAN BELLS FOR GREEK CATHEDRAL. Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathed in Piraeus, which was badly damaged during the last war, is now being reconstructed and will receive a set of bells from the Russian Orthodox Patriarchate in Moscow.

Bishop Constantine Rucinzky, dean of Leningrad Theological Academy, who made the anno ment in Athens, said the bells were already in a Black Sea port ready for shipment to Gre

The Russian bishop was in Athens for celebrations marking the 600th anniversary of the d of St. Gregorios Palamas, Orthodox Archbishop of Thessaloniki, who died in 1359.

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ORTHODOX MARK 600th ANNIVERSARY OF SAINT'S DEATH. Observances mark the 600th anniversary of the death of St. Gregory Palamas, Greek Orthodox Archbishop of Thessaloniki, who died in 1359, were climaxed with a Thanksgiving Service of Vespers in t Cathedral, in Thessaloniki, that bears his name.

The religious ceremony was attended by leading Orthodox clergy and theologians from ma parts of the world. Civil authorities also participated by holding civic receptions in honor the great Orthodox Saint.

Gregory Palamas (1296-1359) was a Byzantine leader of the 'Inner Light' movement on the Holy Mountain of Athos; later he became Archbishop of Salonica. His writings are among most important of the Byzantine period. They stress the 'taking up into God' of redeemed Man, as a result of the Incarnation.

The November 11th-15th commemoration festivities saw the appearance of a number of out standing Orthodox speakers and theologians; among them were Professors Florovsky, Alivisatos, Kalogirou, Constantinides, and Phytrakis. Representatives of the Orthodox Patriarchates of Alexandria, Antioch and Moscow were present; so also were representati of the Church of Serbia, Hungary and Cyprus.

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ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE PLANS CENTER FOR STUDYING CHURCH FAT Plans for a center to study and publish the works of the Church Fathers were approved by Holy Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in Istanbul.

The center will be housed in the monastery of Vlantadon belonging to the Patriarchate and located on a hill near Thessaloniki.

The Church Fathers are those writers of the early centuries, whose works on Christian d trine are considered of weight and worthy of respect. They include writers from both the

d before the Nicene Council, as well as that period following.

A number of English translations of the writings of these illustrious Christian leaders are on the public market at present; constant revision and study, for accuracy's sake, however, is always of importance. - ED.

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USHCHEV'S DISARMAMENT APPEAL HAS BACKING OF RUSSIAN CHURCH. o separate statements, leaders of the Russian Orthodox Church came out strongly for ort of Soviet Premier Khrushchev's recent proposal for world disarmament.

on behalf of all the Russian Orthodox clergy, a statement, issued over the signature of iarch Alexei, called for the heads of all Eastern Orthodox National Church bodies to r and spread their acceptance of the principle of general and complete disarmament by he world. In brief, the statement stresses that such a disarmament will not only deliver kind from the 'fear of war', but is also is 'in harmony with the Christian Faith'.

second statement was issued by Archimandrite Nikodim. This statement underscores the ning of the word 'peace' as being essentially that of 'sacred'. In his own words: 'The word e is sacred for a Christian believer. Peace was the last behest of Christ....the first thing postles heard from their resurrected teacher were his words 'Peace be unto you'; the teaching of the Holy Gospel is the commandment 'Love thy neighbor as thyself''; there- , every man who directs his will...to brotherhood and mutual understanding....is worthy... ...Blessed are the peace-makers'. The Russian Orthodox Church exerts all its efforts rd the establishment of peace on earth.....(even)....every atheist, who has a clear under- ding of the word 'Man', also is against war, for war is inhuman.'

'Peace', as President Eisenhower has*said, must be accompanied, of course, with Freedom and Justice for all. - ED. (*Peace and Friendship in Freedom)

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IET RELEASES FORMER HEAD OF POLISH ORTHODOX CHURCH. Metropolitan isus Waledynski, former head of the Orthodox Church in Poland, has been released from et detention and returned to his homeland. The Metropolitan, who is now in his late 80's, deposed from office, by the Russians, in 1948 and placed under house arrest at Sosnowiec, sia, following a government decree in Warsaw recognizing Patriarch Alexei, of Moscow, as itual head of the Polish Church.

iarch Alexei, in 1952, then named Metropolitan Makarius of Lwow as the head of the Polish rch. A reason was never given for the arrest of the former Metropolitan, but political cles said it was due to the fact that he had cooperated with the Nazis during the German upation of Poland.

The Polish Orthodox Church only attained a National status in 1918, after the Communist Revolution and after Poland had proclaimed her national independence as a country. Until that time, the Polish Orthodox had always been under the Moscow Patriarchate. - ED.

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LICAL MANUSCRIPT BRINGS $182,000 AT AUCTION. A record $182,000 was d at auction for a 13th century illuminated manuscript copy of the Apocalypse(The Book of elation of St. John the Divine).

buyer, H.P. Kraus - a New York rare book dealer, broke a 30-year dollar price record by the late J.P.Morgan, who paid $158,400 in 1929 for the Bedford Book of Hours. With the chase of the Apocalypse, Mr. Kraus also topped his own previous high of $109,200 for a century illuminated manuscript of the Gospels.

auction was held in London; in addition to the Apocalpyse, Mr. Kraus also bought a 13th tury manuscript of the Psalter of Wencelas, King of Bohemia and Hungary, for $72,800.

SUNDAY CHURCH ATTENDANCE LOW IN SWEDEN. Sunday church attendance i Sweden averages only 250,000, 3.3% of the entire population, according to a report issued the State Lutheran Church, to which an estimated 95% of all Swedes belong.

The report noted, however, that religious radio broadcasts attract 50-60% of all radio lis ers; in addition, an overwhelming majority of adults have their children baptized, with 86% all births resulting in later baptism. 91.4% of all marriages also occur in the State Chur 96% of all burials are performed by the same Church.

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ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS ELECTED NEW HEAD OF CYPRUS REPUBLIC. Ele by a two to one majority, Archbishop Makarios, head of the Orthodox Church of Cyprus, i the first president of the new Republic.

The prelate received 144,501 votes, as against 71,753 for John Clerides. His term is for fi years. Vice-president is Dr. Fazil Kutchuk, leader of the Turkish Cypriotes, who was ch earlier by the Turkish community, which had no voice in the Presidential election.

- The island of Cyprus becomes independent on February 19th, 1960, under an agreeme signed by England, Greece, Turkey and the island's Greek majority and Turkish mino ED.

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GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH ACCEPTS CONSTITUTION CHANGES. After a long somewhat bitter dispute over government interference in the internal affairs of the Greek Orthodox Church, the Holy Synod accepted many of the crucial changes demanded by Prem Karamanlis of Greece.

The changes, some of which are given below, were hailed by the Premier as necessary 'if Greek Church, assisted by the affection and support of the Greek State, was to continue its historic mission for the religious and moral betterment of the nation'.

The new amendments,to the constitution of the state religion,include permanent assignmen of senior bishops or metropolitans to their dioceses without subsequent transfer; election new metropolitans by plenary meetings of the metropolitans themselves, instead of by the eight member Holy Synod; major decisions concerning church matters will, in the future, by taken before the meetings of the metropolitans, instead of the Synod; the Synod was fur restricted by a stringent reduction in the number of metropolitanates that its members ma hold; seven minor metropolitanates were merged with larger ones, and a new metropolita province was established in Piraeus; lastly, higher qualifications were established for mo priests, who aspired to be metropolitans.

- The transfer of a metropolitan, from one province to another, has always been a sore spot in the hierarchy. The reason? All metropolitan provinces do not have the same annual revenues, nor can they all furnish as luxurious a life as some of the wealthier provinces; therefore, there was always a scramble for a 'better place in life' by the metropolitans who had seniority of years. This always necessitated a 'transfer'; the logical successor to the vacant province being left with a second-rate position. - ED.

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EASTERN ORTHODOX MISSION AND 'RETREAT' HELD IN FAR EAST. The fir Mission and Spiritual Retreat for military personnel and their dependents, of the Eastern Orthodox Faith, was held in the Far East during the latter part of October and the first pa of November.

The scene of the Retreat was the Grant Heights Chapel Center, Tokyo, Japan and the Fuji New Grand Hotel overlooking Mt. Fuji on Lake Yamanaka.

Father Nicholas T. Kiryluk, Mission Coordinator and Eastern Orthodox Chaplain for the F

, stated that the Retreat had far-reaching results: five National Orthodox Churches represented among the participants, who came from as far away as Formosa, Okinawa Korea; fourteen Divine Services and Sacraments were celebrated in English; many res, discussion groups and individual consultations were held; a combined attendance 4 was recorded for all services. As a result, plans are already under way for another ion and Retreat to be held in the Autumn of 1960.

the efforts of Father John Kivko, of the Committee on Chaplaincy of the Russian Orthodox ch, arrangements were made with the Chief of Air Force Chaplains to place Father idas Contos, Dean of St.Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral - Los Angeles, on official Air e travelling orders in the capacity of Retreat Speaker, with the rank of a Major General. uch, he was present at the Retreat in Tokyo and aided materially in the success of the avor.

Father Contos was one of five American clergymen, who went on a study tour of Europe, the Middle East, and the Soviet in 1958, under the sponsorship of the National Conference of Christians and Jews. - ED.

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COW ARCHIMANDRITE INSTALLED IN ISRAEL BY PATRIARCH BENEDICTOS. imandrite Augustin was solemnly installed in Jerusalem by Greek Patriarch Benedictos rusalem, as head of the Russian Orthodox Mission in Israel.

Archimandrite was formerly an official of the Moscow Patriarchate. He was installed in ty Cathedral, in the presence of a large number of Greek and Russian clergy. Highlight e ceremony was the presentation of a crozier to the Archimandrite, by the Patriarch, to olize his new authority.

Patriarch Benedictos, who recently returned from an extended visit to Cyprus, Greece, and Istanbul, also participated recently in a co-celebration of the Divine Liturgy with the Ecumenical Patriarch and the Patriarch of Antioch at the Shrine of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. - ED.

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ONY OF 'OLD BELIEVERS' DISCOVERED IN TURKEY. A previously unknown y of 'Old Believers', colorful descendants of a schismatic group that broke away from ussian Orthodox Church in the 17th century, has just been 'discovered' in the heart of Minor.

community is made up of about 1,000 persons. Living along Nicea Lake, Turkey, they their living largely by fishing.

contact with the colony was made by a senior member of the 'Old Believers' who had a four hour trip to Istanbul to ask the World Council of Churches office, there, to help to migrate to Brazil, where others of their belief have already found new homes. The office said that the visit was the 'surprise of their life; that they had no idea there any strong groups of Christians in Asia Minor. The WCC said it would explore the ibility of granting the wish of these people for 'resettlement' in the Western Hemisphere.

Nicea Lake is the area in which the Nicene Creed, used or accepted by most Christians, was drawn up by the early Ecumenical Councils. - ED.

The 500 member body of the 'Old Believers', who were established in Brazil last year by the WCC, were refugees from Hong Kong. - ED.

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EASTERN ORTHODOX EXPANDING IN EAST AFRICA. Archimandrite Reuben Mu Sparta, head of the Greek Orthodox Church in Uganda, recently reported in person to Athe Greece, to Archbishop Theoklitos regarding the expansion of Orthodoxy in that area of Af

The archimandrite, who is under the jurisdiction of the Orthodox Patriarchate of Alexandr is a former Anglican(Church of England), came to Athens to appeal for aid in obtaining ic vestments, books, and furnishings for Orthodox Missions in Uganda and Kenya and Tangan He also petitioned for the granting of scholarships, in Greece, for native students from U who were desirous of serving in the national Orthodox movement in Africa.

Father Sparta revealed that mission work had already produced 10,000 Orthodox in Ugand with another 4,000 in Kenya. As a result of his appeal, the Greek Church asked for volunte five priests applied, from various sections of Greece, and will leave for East Africa to se in this work; in addition, a financial collection is being taken up in Greek parishes to aid the building of churches and institutions in Uganda.

King Paul of Greece also received Father Sparta in audience and was presented with gifts that Father Sparta brought to him from the ruler of Buganda, the Kabaka.

- The Orthodox mission work in Africa ran into some trouble, a while back, when it fou that a Roman clergyman had disguised himself as an Orthodox prelate and was going among the natives, especially the converted Orthodox, administering Sacraments and endeavoring to develop a 'Unia' movement. Such practices have been common in hist especially in the Balkans, where Romans, disguised as Orthodox, have caused much l trouble among the people in their attempt to smash Orthodoxy. - ED.

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SAVONAROLA 'BEATIFICATION' BEING STUDIED. Palestre Del Clero, a magazine published in Rome by the Dominican Order, said that the forthcoming 'ecumenical' council is considering plans to 'beatify' Fra. Girolamo Savonarola, the Italian 15th century preach who was put to death in Florence, by Rome, as an heretic.

Savonarola was born at Ferrara in 1452 and was brutally murdered, at forty days of excru ing torture, by being burned alive, whilst impaled on a crucifix. He died with two of his di les, one on each side of him - one, Fra.Domenico,faithful and stalwart to the last; the oth Fra.Silvestro, craven and piteous. (Much like the death of Jesus and the two thieves, one g and one craven - ED)

Savonarola preached mainly against the licentiousness and immorality of the Roman Chur and the political States, which patterned themselves after Rome. For this, he brought on himself the wrath of the Vatican and the degenerate Alexander VI.

Palestre Del Clero, however, is now drawing a comparison between Savonarola and Joan o saying also that Savonarola 'was a true herald of Christian faith, who foresaw the morass moral decline.....and (whose) views are today known as having been perfectly orthodox'.

- Rome would do well today, also, to open her eyes and ears and see existing conditio which she largely promulgates: paganism,serfdom, superstition, poverty and ignora
- In light of the forthcoming 'ecumenical' council, it is interesting to note, however, th the Dominican magazine uses the word, concerning Savonarola's teachings, 'orthodox' A return to 'orthodoxy', and the original concepts of Christ, has always been the plea Eastern Orthodoxy to Rome and her Popes. - ED.

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FRENCH ANTI-CLERICALS DEMONSTRATE AGAINST STATE AID TO CHURC Determined attempts to sabotage a bill, which was finally passed, providing State aid for France's private schools - mostly Roman Catholic - were staged in France's National Ass bly. The anti-clericals, in the final count, numbered 71 against 427, who were for the bill.

since the French Revolution, the anti-clericals have fought against any Church-State onship. In the days of the old French Monarchy, the Church practically ran the State e impoverished peasants and workers saw the clergy 'living off the fat of the land'. to see any concessions given back to the Church is a bitter pill for the anti-clericals.

rench Parliament is, at present, made up largely of Catholics. This is due to the recent slide victory of the Gaullist Party, which is pro-Roman.

he economic resurrection of France; the solution of the Algerian problem; and the hurch-State issue; - these all confront the present government with a situation, which ay well result in an overthrow of the present government in the year ahead. A people ill suffer under economic growth; under war and disorder; but, when the ancient head f religious issue arises, the seeds of revolution again start to bristle. - ED.

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ENIAN PRIMATE SEES RELIGIOUS REVIVAL IN RUSSIA. Archbishop Sion ogian, Primate of the Armenian Church of North America, told a press conference in nto,Canada, that, since the death of Stalin, there has been a religious revival in Russia.

ng Canada, on his first pastoral trip in the organizing and coordinating of the work of dian-Armenian parishes, Archbishop Manoogian arrived in Toronto from Montreal. He ring several other Canadian centers before returning to his headquarters in New York.

ishop Manoogian, who has visited Soviet Armenia and other parts of Russia several in the past seven years, said that relaxation in church affairs 'began with the death of and Lavrentia Beria'.

Russians and Armenians have always been church-loving people. The churches are d with worshippers. In Armenia, 90% of the population (1,750,000) believe in the Church', he prelate. He also added that there were 100 young men studying in Armenian semin-

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LD COUNCIL DELEGATION COMPLETES VISIT TO RUSSIA. An official five elegation from the World Council of Churches just completed a $3\frac{1}{2}$ week tour of the lt, as guests of the Russian Orthodox Church.

ed by Dr. Visser 't Hooft, WCC general secretary, the delegation issued a statement cting 'closer relations' between the WCC and the Churches of Russia, both Orthodox rotestant. Stressing that no 'official negotiations' had been entered into, the report that 'the future of our contacts was always the main subject of discussion'.

ng the members of the five man delegation was Greek Orthodox - Dr.Nick Nissiotis, tant director of the WCC's Ecumenical Institute at Bossey, Switzerland.

three and a half week itinerary, which was arranged by the Moscow Patriarchate, had art in Moscow, thence to Soviet Armenia, including short stopovers in Riga, Kiev,and ngrad. The visit was a result of a two-way exchange visit arranged in August of 1958, meeting held at Utrecht, Netherlands. The delegation from the Russian Church had iously visited the WCC headquarters in Geneva last June; and in August, they had ded the Council's Central Committee meeting on the Island of Rhodes.

erous discussions, not only with members of the Russian Orthodox Church, but also with ists and Armenians, were held during the visit.

The Baptist Standard, in a feature series recently, portrayed religious life in Russia, especially stressing the life of the Baptists there. A few of the views and facts given are here set forth:

Of the 208,836,000 people in Russia, only 4% are Communist members. Of the rest,

nearly 100,000,000 hold some form of religious belief: Jew, Moslem, and Christian

- About 3,000,000 Jews reside in Russia; 25,000,000 Russians are Moslem; 70,000,00 are Christian.

- The Christian bodies are in three bodies: Pentecostals (30,000); Russian Orthodox (65,000,000); and Baptist(5,000,000). The Orthodox are reported as having 35,000 churches at present. The Baptist have 5,400.

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ISRAELI CHRISTIANS RECEIVE PERMISSION TO ENTER JORDAN. Some three thousand Israeli Christians, mostly Arabs, received permission to cross the armistice lines between Israel and Jordan to observe Christmas Services in Bethlehem.

A total of 1,400 Latin and Uniate Catholics and 200 Protestants had permits for the Dec.2 entry; January 7th will see admission of the Greek Orthodox pilgrims; another 300 Arm ians have permits for entry for their Christmas observance, which occurs January 18th.

It was reported that some 10,000 persons had applied for permission to make the pilgrim to Bethlehem, but the quota was limited to 3,000.

Christians in Israel number about 45,000, most of them Arabs. There are about 160 churches and chapels, with some 550 nuns 150 monks, and 300 other clergy. Of Biblical interest, the majo Christian holy places are the Coenaculum (place of the Last Su per), Nazareth, Capernaum, and the Mount of the Beatitudes o the shores of Lake Galilee. - ED.

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T.V. FILM BEING SHOT IN HOLY LAND FOR SHOWING IN NETHERLAND Three Dutchmen are following the footsteps of Moses, Elijah, and Jesus to produce three miles of 166 mm. film, which will be edited into three documentary-type films, each of which will run 25 minutes.

The three-man team, engaged by the Netherlands Christian Radio Ass'n., are concerned o with Bible scenery, not with any personality roles. The film, thus taken, will then have a oral commentary dubbed in, with readings from the Bible. Paintings by Rembrandt will b superimposed on the relevant background, in the section dealing with Jesus.

The first film deals with Moses and the Exodus. The second film is based on the life of Elijah and scenes are shown from areas of Lebanon, Mt. Carmel, Negev, Beersheba and Sinai. The third film is on Jesus in Galilee and his last days in Jerusalem - for this, the camera was brought to Galilee, Tiberias, Safad, Capernaum, Nazareth, Jerusalem, and th Mt. of Olives.

- Holland has about 500,000 TV sets for her population of 12 million. It is to be hoped t one of the U.S. Networks will obtain this series for showing thruout America. - ED.

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CHRISTMAS CHURCH BELLS RING IN ENGLAND. As an interesting sidelight on church customs, Britain's cathedrals and parish churches have a practically unknown gro of some 40,000 men and women who are qualified bell-ringers. Bell-ringing is as art tha dates back till the 16th century, according to an article by Jean MacVean, published in th 'Cathedral Age' this month.

Bell-ringing, in the 16th century, developed into a bell, made with a wheel, which allowed easy movement. The ringing of such a bell, in a natural sequence, became elementary; th

ers developed changes in the sequence, until the whole has now become exceedingly icate.

safeguard the rights of the bell-ringers and generally promote the welfare of the craft, ntral Council of Church Bell-ringers was founded some 70 years ago. In addition to the ncil, a 322 year old 'Ancient Society of College Youths' represents the earliest bell- ers of Britain and their unbroken succession of members thru the years.

he art is often passed down thru families, school age children constitute a goodly percen- of all bell-ringers. A minimum of twelve months is necessary to properly train a true ger', for he must have a good sense of rhythm - be able to retain control of the bell, and e properly the interval between the pull at the rope and the sound.

A recent survey of the 5,400 bell towers of the British Isles showed that, in more than half, the bells are rung for 30 to 45 minutes before a service. The 'ringers' work without any salary, except for the pleasure of their craft. - ED.

DOMESTIC !

EK ARCHBISHOP'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE: 'CHRISTIANITY ON TRIAL'. In his al Christmas message, Greek Archbishop Iakovos (James) said: I feel impelled in my stmas message this year to strike a serious note, because Christianity is on trial, as r before, in the eyes of all the world'.

e', continued the Archbishop, 'as true followers of Christ, want to serve ourselves and lkind in the name of Christianity, we must first of all reaffirm Christian principles; and ndly, we must, as Christians, act in unison. We must create and practice a Christian - a unity of spirit and purpose, if not of doctrine. Fortunately, the Christian leaders of world, both religious and secular, have realized the urgency for this. Within the span of brief year,....the movement for Christian union.....has been brought to the attention of all stians, and to the world at large.....the tremendous effect that the emergence of this issue public prominence may now have in molding the world events of the future....(is beyond culation).'

cted that the 'essential spirit of Christ is strangely and all too often absent from contem- ry Christian practice'. For this reason, he asserted, millions of Christians and non- stians around the world 'whom godless systems have deprived of freedom and dignity, er bitter disappointments and doubts as they look helplessly towards the free Christian ons for deliverance.'

not truly living our Christianity, we have become slaves of material things on earth, and, se still, we are competing with the totalitarians to become slaves on other planets, not izing that in our infinite expansion we take with us our infinite spiritual poverty'.

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THODOX PRELATES DISAGREE ON APPROACH TO CHRISTIAN UNITY. In a nt statement, Archbishop Anthony Bashir, Syrian Antiochian Orthodox Church of North erica, took sharp issue with Ecumenical Patriarch Athenagoras and Archbishop Iakovos he Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America.

constant reiteration of the Ecumenical Patriarch has always been that Protestants must

be included in any final 'ecumenical dialogues'. This viewpoint has also been stressed, ov and over again, by Archbishop Iakovos.

Archbishop Bashir, however, made it perfectly clear that such meetings 'must be restrict to Orthodox Catholics and Roman Catholics'. He said that the various branches of Protes antism have 'enormous basic doctrinal divergences from both Orthodox and Romans' and any inclusion of Protestants in any ecumenical dialogue 'could only result in chaos'.

The Syrian Orthodox prelate, who recently held a public 'debate' in a Pittsburgh, Pa. Syria Church with Roman Catholic Bishop J.J.Wright, gave high praise to the Pope's suggestion that Roman Catholic and Orthodox should give serious consideration to reunion. He added that 'if Orthodox and Roman differences were adjusted, the Protestant world, numerically and psychologically, would be faced with a serious reassessment of its genesis and develc ment'. He also pointed out that by the Romans and the Orthodox meeting first, it would 'provide an opportunity for the Holy Spirit to act'.

- Apparently the Syrian Archbishop does not agree with the Christmas message of Gree Archbishop Iakovos, which is given in the article preceding. One of the unfortunate traits of Christian leaders thruout the centuries has been their desire for power and recognition. To obtain this need, many take the stand of being 'hold-outs' so as to draw attention to themselves. As Archbishop Iakovos has stated, 'we must, as Christi act in unison'. - ED.

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UNITY PARLEY DATE SET BY ARCHBISHOP IAKOVOS. A tentative date for Ma 1960, has been set by Archbishop Iakovos, Greek Archdiocese of the Americas, for a preli inary get-together for Eastern Orthodox leaders of the more than 15 National jurisdictions the Western Hemisphere. He said the meeting would be an informal one, to which the lead would be invited to come.

The prelate explained that the March meeting would only be a preliminary discussion, pri to the scheduled Pan-Orthodox World Conference next July on the Island of Rhodes. He sai the meeting in March would not go into actual details of any phases of union itself, but onl broad implications on the subject. He explained that some Orthodox 'are influenced with th sole idea of reuniting with the Catholic Church, while others think the Orthodox Church should preferably solidify their cooperation with the World Council.....(personally) I am convinced that we can have union without doctrinal unity....(such union to be) based on cooperation in matters of moral order... (this) will bring us closer...in our duty to the wor

- The Rhodes meeting, in July, will draft an Eastern Orthodox statement on Christian Unity, which will be sent to the World Council of Churches, as well as to the Vatican. Participating in the Pan-Orthodox meeting will be representatives from Orthodox countries, as well as Armenians, Jacobites, Coptic, Ethiopians, and Old Catholics.-EI

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CEOYLA MEETS IN NEW YORK CITY. The 11th meeting of the Council of Easter Orthodox Youth (CEOYLA) met in New York City, last November 27-29. The meeting was at the Hotel New Yorker with a joint participation by the various delegations in a Divine Liturgy at the Russian Orthodox Cathedral of the Virgin Mary, at which Metropolitan Leo was guest hierarch.

Acting as host to the gathering, was the Federated Russian Orthodox Clubs (FROC). Parti pating were the seven member organizations: FROC, Carpatho-Russian Youth (ACRY), Ru ian Orthodox Youth (AROY), Greek Orthodox Youth (GOYA), Serbian Singing Federation (SS Syrian Orthodox Youth (SOYO), Ukrainian Orthodox League (UOL).

The meeting was presided over by outgoing chairman, S.R. Vranes (SSF); total membersh of CEOYLA was reported at 833 chapters, with a total of 56,137 members in the U.S. & Ca Decisions were made to send representatives to the North American Ecumenical Youth C

e in 1961, as well as to the European Ecumenical Youth Assembly at Lausanne,Switzer-
n 1960. A further decision was made to affiliate with Syndesmos of Europe and work
establishment of a World Council of Orthodox Youth.

legates also decided to publish a Council Church Directory; to investigate erection of
street signs; and to call a giant Pan Orthodox Conference of member organizations in
urgh, in 1963 - such a gathering is anticipated at some 20,000 people.

d as new chairman was Andrew Homanich (ACRY); the next meeting of CEOYLA was
June 10-12,1960, at Jackson, Mich., with the Rumanian Youth as host.

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ORTHODOX YOUTH MEETING HELD IN CHICAGO. A provisional committee of
individuals representing the seven national Orthodox jurisdictions, that are members of
OYLA, was established in Chicago to discuss objectives and ways and means of organi-
n Inter-Orthodox Youth Council for Metropolitan Chicago.

ored by the Greek Orthodox Youth (GOYA), the representatives convened at St. Andrew's
Orthodox Church, Chicago, early last month, in search of unity. Presided over by
Kopan (GOYA), the meeting elected the fifteen member panel to draw up a concrete pro-
for the formation of such a Metropolitan Council. Two representatives were chosen
each of the seven bodies, plus an adult religious advisor. Elected as chairman of the
was Cornell Cotosman (AROY); Father Eugene Lazar, Rumanian priest, was appointed
ritual advisor.

he formation of such inter-Orthodox Councils, especially in Metropolitan areas, is one
the finest steps towards creating better understanding and unity than any other
ethod known. All areas should take this example and take similar measures.- ED.

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SCHOLAR CALLS CHURCH 'THEOLOGICALLY ILLITERATE'. Delegates at the
ational Methodist Conference on Christian Education, last month, in Cincinnati,O., heard
e authority describe the Church as 'theologically illiterate'.

ed Dr. Lowell B. Hazzard, head of Old Testament Studies at Wesley Seminary in Wash-
D.C., this 'is evidenced by the wistful question that keeps coming to us (from people):
e tell us what we believe'.

we need is a new orientation, a recognition on the part of all of us that this is what the
is about, and this is all it is about - the sin of Man, the Grace of God, and God's eter-
fort to save men from their sin'.

hile the good professor is partially correct, he ignores the great bulk of Christian
adition and teaching that is contained in the Church Fathers, the Ecumenical Councils
which gave us the very Books of the Bible, canonically, that he refers to), and, of course,
ne great store of unwritten tradition. - ED.

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D GAMES IN NEW YORK STATE SHOW $4,851,593 NET PROFIT. Churches,
able, and other licensed non-profit organizations, netted $4,851,593 from gross receipts
,353,272 in Bingo games thruout New York State since the games first became legal two
ago.

tics reveal that a total of 6,737,196 players had participated in 903,288 Bingo games and
on prizes totaling $15,047,425. Some operators suffered losses totaling $37,653. Total
e fees, received by municipalities during the same period, came to $366,820.

Gambling as a means of raising funds for the synagogue' was opposed in a resolution

adopted by the Union of American Hebrew Congregations(Reformed), at their 45th bie general assembly that met in Miami Beach, Fla., last month.

- The 57th annual meeting of the Massachusetts Council of Churches, meeting in Bosto November, issued a strong condemnation of any form of gambling or lotteries for rai money for churches or charitable institutions. All congregations were urged to 'firm resist the temptation to use unworthy methods, merely because they are practiced b neighboring institutions'.

- Roman Catholic bodies have consistently fought to obtain such legalizing of outright gambling by their church and fraternal organizations. The principle evidently is that expediency out-weighs morality; take, for example, the case of the Knights of Colum who have been cited as 'a great moral force' by a number of State Legislatures last y For two years, the Knights of Columbus fought thru the courts to obtain a liquor licen in an establishment across the street from the Presbyterian Church of Livingston,N. The Presbyterians appealed the case to the Supreme Court of N.J., which unanimousl found in their favor and overruled the grant of the license. - ED.

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MAJOR FAITHS HAIL RELIGION IN AMERICAN LIFE CAMPAIGN. Leaders of th country's four major faiths gave high praise to the campaign of RIA L (Religion in Americ Life), which was carried on nationally during the entire month of November.

The RIA L campaign is promoted thru 27 national religious groups and their churches and synagogues; it is sponsored by a 70 member lay committee of men and women of various creeds and faiths. For this, the 11th annual campaign, a total of some $8,000,000 worth of time and space was contributed by American business, thru the Advertising Council. In addition to the Radio, TV, Press and billboards, RIA L sponsored community campaigns i several hundred cities and towns thruout the country.

As an example, Warren, Ohio, saw clergymen of the four major Faiths: Father Michael Kapral of St.John Russian Orthodox Church; Rabbi Jack Schechter of Beth Israel; Rev.Jose Krispinsky of the Roman Catholic Church; and Dr. T.C. Mayer of the First Methodist Chu participate in a local campaign, that was sponsored by the Kiwanis Club and Junior Chamb Commerce. The campaign saw the placing of 250 store posters; distribution of RIA L fold by the local milk deliverymen; running of movie shorts in the five area theatres; and a RI dinner, attended by persons of all Faiths.

Regarding RIA L, Archbishop Iakovos (Greek Orthodox) had this to say: 'I fully support the program of RIA L....Religious freedom is a basic constitutional right in the American way life.....Religious faith is the basis of all free civilizations...and strengthens the bonds of family life, on which good society depends.....RIA L should be fully supported...by all of u

- The slogan of the national RIA L campaign, this year, was 'Find the Strength for Your Life....Worship Together This Week'. - ED.

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ROMAN CATHOLICS PUBLISH ENCYCLOPEDIA OF SIN. A 928 page book, entitled 'Il Peccato'(Sin), was recently published by a group of Catholic clerical and lay scholars. Edited by Msgr. Pietro Palazzini, the tome was published by the Ares Press in Rome.

Purpose of the book, so says the preface, is to remind men of the traditional concept of si 'because one cannot otherwise explain history nor give an orientation to life'. The book ci the quote from Pope Pius XII that 'the greatest sin of the world today is that men have sta to lose the sense of sin'.

The book, however, contains no new moral principles. There are studies of 'new sins',how new in the sense of being modern.(e.g.-traffic sins, sins of communism,etc.)

- The simplest way of explaining 'history...(and)...orientation to life' is thru the known

asonable concept of 'Man's struggle thru the throes of evolution'. As for 'new sins', let be said that 'there is nothing new in the world, but what is old'. On the subject of the eatest sin: Scripture states that 'All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven to men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Spirit, it shall not be forgiven him, neither this world, neither in the world to come.' (S.Matt.12)

would appear that more attention should be paid to help people to be true to the Spirit God and His Word, as revealed thru Jesus Christ and worry less about these man-made ctrines. - ED.

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INIAN CHURCH IN CHICAGO OBSERVES FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY. Saints and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Chicago,Ill. celebrated its 50th Anniversary onth. Under the present and able leadership of Father Orest Kulick, the congregation veloped into an ever-increasing and active body.

ning with a frame church, back in December, 1909, a series of priests have served the thruout the years - some ten in all. The present rector has served the church since The present structure is of brick, but it was not always so; the original building was ne church, which unfortunately burned to the ground on Christmas morning, 1913. Since me, the new structure was built and improved constantly, at great sacrifice to clergy embers.

middle '40s, the church acquired a hall, nearby, which was subsequently sold to a ercial establishment for some $50,000. This fund was set aside as the nucleus of a g fund to erect a new hall, which would be more suitable to the needs of the congre- . The fulfillment of this plan, however, yet remains to be completed.

rk this anniversary, an elaborate program was staged late in October, 1959, at which uet, with outstanding local and national speakers, and a concert and dance filled the day of festivities. The Divine Liturgy was held, in addition, in the morning preceding mal banquet.

ll one can say is 'Many Years' to the life of such a worthy and active parish of earnest elievers and their pastor. - ED.

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ERN ORTHODOXY AT UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO. During the recent visit of ost Reverend Arthur Michael Ramsey, Lord Archbishop of York (England), to the U.S., dwest Chapter of the Fellowship of St. Albans and St. Sergius arranged for a present- bf his views on Orthodoxy at the University of Chicago.

ing a dinner at the Quadrangle Club, the Archbishop delivered a most effective talk on Role of the Orthodox Church in Coming Ecumenical Conversations', in which he praised ue and original authenticity of the Orthodox Church and endeavored to explain why it is ficult for Anglican and Episcopal leaders to fully understand the East. He said that the l obstacle to such understanding arose from the Western Mind being confused with the ms peculiar to Rome, the Renaissance, and the Reformation - problems which had scured the Eastern Mind; hence, difficulty in a meeting-of-minds.

ssive Orthodox Vesper Services followed the prelate's address. Conducted by Fathers S. Gregory and John Kutulas of St. Constantine Church, the presentation of the Eastern was a highspot to the assembled clergy, guests and scholars.

he Fellowship of St.Albans and St. Sergius was founded in Paris in 1928 for the express urpose of promoting better understanding between the Anglican and Orthodox Churches.

rchbishop Ramsey is the 2nd ranking prelate of the Church of England; he comes after he Archbishop of Canterbury in his authority. Having participated in many conferences

on the ecumenical movement (Geneva, Lambeth, Lund, Amsterdam, Evanston, Mosco he is particularly able and informed on many of the phases of knowledge pertinent t proper understanding of Eastern Orthodoxy.-ED.

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ONLY 3.1% OF AIR TIME IS GIVEN TO RELIGIOUS PROGRAMMING. Sustai (free) religious programs were allotted only 3.1% of a given week of the Nation's total ra and TV time.

According to a survey, conducted by the Nat'l. Council of Churches in the week of Nov.1-' of 141 commercial stations in 11 major cities of the U.S., a total time of 508 hours and 48 minutes were devoted to free church broadcasts, out of 16,353 hours and 39 minutes of to broadcasting time.

Radio, with 12,794 hours and 20 minutes of time, gave 3.5% to 'public service' religious TV, with a total of 3,559 hours and 19 minutes, allotted 1.7% to similar shows.

Included in the survey were sustaining shows of Protestant, Roman Catholic and Jewish b

- Just prior to Christmas of this year, a combined appeal, from the three leading Gree American fraternal bodies in the U.S.(Ahepa, GAPA, and Pan-Arcadian) was sent to. FCC(Federal Communications Commission); the wire requested that Eastern Ortho be given equal time on the airways to that of the other three major faiths, namely,- Protestant, Catholic and Jewish. - ED.

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TWO GREEK-AMERICANS ACTIVE IN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. Congressman Brademas, first native-born American of Hellenic descent to be elected to the U.S. Hous Representatives, was formerly an Ass't. Professor of Political Science at St. Mary's Co in South Bend. His father, Stephen, was an immigrant from Kalamata, Greece; he settled Mishawaka, Indiana, where the present congressman was born in 1927. Congressman Bra is a member of the Protestant Church.

Peter Chumbris of Washington D.C. was born of immigrant parents from Arcadia, Greec is an attorney and has served as ass't. state attorney general of New Mexico; subsequent he accepted an appointment as associate counsel on Juvenile Delinquency (U.S.Senate Sub- mittee); in this capacity he became closely associated with the late Senator William Lan As a result of his extensive work in Juvenile Delinquency, he is now considered an author on that national problem. Presently, he is engaged as counsel to the U.S.Senate Sub-com on Anti-trust and Monopoly. He is an active member of the Greek Orthodox Church, as v Greek fraternal bodies.

- Just this month, Mr. Chumbris was named to a committee of two to prepare a plan fo organizing of an American Hellenic Congress, in which representatives of all nation Greek-American organizations would participate. The purpose being to work toward future, possible merging of these bodies into one organization. - ED.

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CATHOLIC PUBLICATION ENDORSES USE OF 'XMAS'. Use of the word 'Xmas' an abbreviation for 'Christmas' has been fully endorsed by the 'Pittsburgh Catholic', offi diocesan publication, as 'one of the most significant and venerable Christian badges'.

The newspaper declared, in an editorial, that the term is neither 'secular' nor 'unliturgi Asserting that the 'X' in Xmas stands for the word 'Christ', the paper said that, as such, abbreviation long antedated current use by 'newspapers, department stores, Santa Claus all modern worries about the secularization of Christmas'.

'It is an abbreviation that goes back to the very time of Christ. The adaptation is from t

, specifically from the Greek letter for our CH, which is X', said the editorial.

days of early Christianity, said the paper, the 'X' became a distinctive mark of the ian. 'There is, therefore, no reason for Catholics to fret or to object about the use of ' for Christ, and its application to words like 'Xmas'. In reality the 'X' is a sacred ram, standing for the title of Jesus as Redeemer and Messiah anointed by the Godhead'.

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E SELASSIE GIVES MANUSCRIPT TO AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY. Haile ie, Emperor of Ethiopia, had a manuscript copy of the Four Gospels presented to the can Bible Society, in New York, at the opening of its holiday season this December. esentation was made by Tesfaye Roba, Ethiopia's acting consul-general in N.Y.

ic is the language of Ethiopia. The Four Gospels were transcribed on parchment at mperor's direction; the gift was an expression of his appreciation for a Bible that the y had previously presented to him.

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OPIAN COPTIC LEADER PREDICTS 'GREAT ROLE' FOR HIS CHURCH IN U.S. ian Coptic Archbishop, Abuna Theophilus, told newsmen in New York that he foresees a role' for his Church in U.S.life, especially among 'people of African descent'.

rchbishop, who is executive assistant to the Patriarch of Ethiopia, said that upon his to his country he will send an Ethiopian priest to assume leadership of his Church's American congregation.

elate explained that by nature the African people were religious, but that 'they have been e being exploited by groups, individuals and sects in the name of religion'. He added that were even some groups using the titles of 'Ethiopian' or 'Coptic' that had no connection ever with that ancient Church.

sent, in the N.Y., he said, there are some 300 people who have been formed into the congregation of the missionary body; services are temporarily being conducted at an opal Church in Harlem, but the group is seeking a building of their own, that they might ase.

his would, indeed, be an excellent expression of an ancient Church in the New World and hould be encouraged in whatever ways may be possible with all with whom the group may ome in contact with.-ED.

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T-TO-WORK' LAWS CONDEMNED AT CATHOLIC MEETING. So-called 'right- rk' laws are a product of 'negative thinking', said G.A. Donahue, Catholic economic ltant, to the 18th annual meeting of the Catholic Economic Ass'n., which met in the n's Capital this month.

laws, he said, delude business men into dreaming that they can escape the eventual al of 'totalitarianism' by a 'return to unregulated individualism'. He suggested, instead, mployers share 'in the just rewards of..(management & worker)...joint productivity'.

Right-to-worship' laws are also resisted strenuously by Catholic bodies in every land & ountry where they hold dominance. 'Totalitarianism' is epitomized by General Franco, oday. 'Totalitarianism' never produces any 'sharing' for workers or management. In ddition, Mr. Donahue doesn't seem to realize that America was built thru 'free enter- rise' with 'right-to-work' traditions. 'Unregulated individualism', as long as kept within ne social framework of reasonable laws, is the American Way of Life that differentiates from Fascist and Communist traditions. Even President Eisenhower recently proclaim- d on his trip abroad: 'Peace, and Friendship in Freedom'. So, let Americans keep eace, with mutual Friendship in Individual Freedom. - ED.

FEAST OF ST. ANDREW COMMEMORATED BY GREEK ORTHODOX. Monday, 30th, 1959, was commemorated thruout the world by the Greek Orthodox Church with appr ate liturgical Services.

In Istanbul, Turkey,(Constantinople) Patriarch Athenagoras surrendered his throne to the of St. Andrew, symbolizing that Andrew reigns on his feast day.

In the U.S.A., Archbishop Iakovos issued a directive to all his churches, requesting week services to be observed; this in honor to St. Andrew the Apostle, who was recently proc ed by Patriarch Athenagoras as the American Archdiocese's patron saint.

St. Andrew was the brother of Peter and disciple of John the Baptist. After the acceptanc Christ of the brothers, and subsequent to Christ's crucifixion, Andrew fled to the north. recorded by Eusebius that Andrew became a missionary among the Scythians, and later filling his great work at*Constantinople(i.e.-in that area). His martyrdom is recorded in liturgical books. Aegeas, whose wife Maximilla converted, was the proconsul who order Andrew crucified** on the 'X' shaped cross that is, today, found on the Russian Orthodox C

*Constantinople was, in those days, known as Byzantium.
**Andrew was crucified in Patras; his body was later moved to Constantinople.

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'MERGING' LUTHERAN CHURCHES CHOOSE NEW NAME. Representatives of fo merging Lutheran bodies voted, this month, to name their new 3,000,000 member body: ' Lutheran Evangelical Church In America'. The action was taken in Chicago,Ill., by the Joi Commission on Lutheran Unity.

Involved in the union are four bodies of German, Swedish, Finnish, and Danish backgroun Final approval for the merger, however, will not take place till Feb.18-20, at a N.Y. mee ing. Upon the Commission's approval, the four bodies will convene a merged constitutin convention by June 30, 1962, after which the'four will be one.'

- A second Lutheran merger is also underway, involving three bodies. A constituting convention of these three will take place in April, 1960, at Mpls.Minn. This new boc will have more than 2,000,000 and have the name of 'The American Lutheran Church This new body will then combine their four existing seminaries into one institution, altho they maintain the existing separate campuses. - ED.

- Such a 'federation' of Orthodox Churches in the U.S. and Canada would be a proper s it could be preceded by 'working agreements', whereby existing Orthodox Seminaries Orphanages, Old Peoples Homes,etc. would cooperate with one another, while still r taining their separate facilities. Such a program would give the 'associated bodies' opportunity to get to know one another from an administrative and practical standpoi often, this is what keeps bodies from merging - i.e.- a jealousy of surrendering the 'rights' to one another. - ED.

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50th ANNIVERSARY FOR GREEK CHURCH OF NORWICH, CONNECTICUT. Hol Trinity Greek Orthodox Church of Norwich, Conn. celebrated the 50th Anniversary of its founding early this month.

The weekend celebration was started with a dance on Friday evening, Dec.4th; Saturday night saw the Bishop of Boston(Athenagoras) officiate, along with several of the past prie of the church, at a Vespers Service - this was followed by a social reception in the chur hall, at which parishioners were able to exchange memories with former pastors, as well with the bishop.

Divine Liturgy on Sunday - then, the formal banquet Sunday night. The banquet gave speci

to some dozen of the original charter members of the parish, members who had been hru the entire fifty years of the existence of Holy Trinity. City and State officials so in attendance, along with Church dignitaries.

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I NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH BISHOP RECEIVES DIVINITY DEGREE.
ard of Trustees of Seabury-Western Theological Seminary, at the bequest of Bishop on F. Scaiffe (Protestant Episcopal), voted to bestow the Degree of Doctor of Divinity shop Thaddeus Francis Zielinski(Polish National Catholic Church).

gree was conferred at the Seminary's 102nd Convocation, October 22, 1959, in the of St. John Divine, Evanston, Ill. At the same convocation, Archbishop Ramsey of rch of England received the Degree of Doctor of Sacred Theology, Honoris Causa.

Scaiffe delivered the convocation address, in which he said that the Polish National c Church, the Anglican Church, the Episcopal Church, the Old Catholic Church, and hodox Church are true branches of the One Holy Catholic, Apostolic Church. He also out that he believed that there are three great central and essential principles of rch: namely- the Apostolic Faith; the Apostolic Sacraments; and the Apostolic of Bishops, Priests and Deacons.

Zielinski, on being tendered his Doctorate, was told that it was in appreciation for at contribution he had made in strengthening the bonds between the Polish National c Church and the Protestant Episcopal Church.

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DOX PRIEST MAKES SEVEN WEEK TOUR OF EUROPE AND RUSSIA.
werend Father Walter P. Shymansky, pastor of All Saints Russian Orthodox Church of nt, Penna., returned last Fall from a seven week tour of a great part of Europe and s of the Soviet.

Shymansky's conclusion regarding Russia: 'Ivan the Russian doesn't want to fight a more than Joe the American. But if his leaders tell him it's necessary, he'll believe ecause he believes just about everything he's told'.

g Kiev, I attended services at the Cathedrals of St. Vladimir, St. Andrew, and the sk Monastery. In Moscow, I was at the Cathedral of All-Russia Patriarch's Divine , and that in the Troitse-Sergiyev Monastery. In Leningrad, I saw Kazan Cathedral e History of Religion Museum), St. Isaac's, and Alexander Nevsky. Many of our es and cathedrals have been converted into moving picture houses, bazaars, and ents; some are entirely closed to the public for years and are falling apart', stated ric.

Yonkers, N.Y. and educated in the U.S., Father Shymansky traveled incognito (in clothes), pretending to be unable to speak the Russian tongue. He did this, he said, r 'to see what's really going on over there..' In spite of his precaution, however, he t tourists to Russia see only what the government wants them to see.

the European countries visited were: Germany, France, Italy, Austria, Holland, burg, Yugoslavia; he also visited Belgium.

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THO-RUSSIAN CHURCH REBUILT AND DEDICATED IN ELIZABETH,N.J.
ds of persons from Elizabeth, N.J. and nearby locales, packed St. Nicholas Carpatho- Church on November 8th to participate in the blessing of the newly renovated His Excellency, Bishop Orestes officiated at the dedicatory rites and accompanying Liturgy; he was assisted thruout by priests from the entire metropolitan area, as well

as the immediate pastor, Rev. Father Hanas.

The rebuilt church is of buff brick with three new towers of stainless steel. The front st are of granite, with the ground area completely landscaped. Total cost was $75,000.

About 300 persons attended the banquet following the Divine Liturgy.

- In the 17th century, Rome, with the help of kings and princes, subjugated the ancient Carpatho-Russian Orthodox peoples and forced them into a bloody 'union' with Papa authority. Their descendants, who immigrated to America, put aside the 300 year- old yoke and formed the independent Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Church of America To head this group, Rev. Orestes P. Chornock was consecrated as Bishop by Bishop of the Holy Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople in 1938. - ED.

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GREEK BISHOP DEDICATES NEW STAINED GLASS WINDOWS. Bishop Athena officiated at services in Lowell, Mass., in which twenty-five new stained glass windows dedicated in the Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church. The dedication took place Dec. following the celebration of the Divine Liturgy.

Designed and executed at a cost of $26,000, the new windows put the final touch of compl tion on the Lowell church. The windows were designed in the Byzantine motif.

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ARCHBISHOP IAKOVOS PARTICIPATES IN GIVING TRIBUTE TO RABBI. A si jubilee dinner, Sunday the 6th of December, saw both civic and religious leaders tenderi their tribute to Rabbi Joseph Shubow for his twenty-five years of faithful service to Tem B'nai Mosche, Brighton, Mass.

Archbishop Iakovos, who knew the Rabbi years before, during his tenure as Dean of the C Cathedral, was present at the dinner. Also present was Cardinal Cushing of Boston.

Since 1934, Rabbi Shubow and his wife have devoted their lives to the growth and develop of Temple B'nai Mosche, watching it gradually mature into a congregation of more than The testimonial $100 per couple dinner was the congregation's way of paying respect to th religious leader.

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50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED AT ST.CONSTANTINE & HELEN GREEK CH St.Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church, Chicago,Ill., celebrated its golden jubi late last November. The Rt.Rev. Athenagoras, Bishop of Elaia of Boston, was the guest h arch for the occasion.

St.Constantine and Helen Church is a distinguished church in more than just its fifty yea history. Few people know that it was in this church that pews were first installed for us Greek Orthodox Church; it was here that choral music for female voices was first intro As a result of these fundamental changes, all other Greek Orthodox Churches in America since followed suit.

During the pageant of years since 1909, St.Constantine and Helen parish has outgrown thr edifices; how many Orthodox churches can claim this distinction? The present structur a seating capacity for 2,300 people, making it the 7th largest such building in the world. last building took ten years for completion. Compare this with the Shrine that the Roman Catholics opened in Washington last month - they claimed it to be the largest Roman ch in America, with a seating capacity of 2,000; it took them several decades to complete. Episcopal Cathedral in Washington is another example - it was started at the turn of the century and still is not complete.

CHURCH DELEGATION SEEKS BIRTH CONTROL ASSISTANCE. A delegation
Lutheran church in India has asked the United Lutheran Church in America to send
l missionaries to India to teach Planned Parenthood and to establish Birth Control
in existing hospitals and medical centers. Mr.Rao, of the Andhra Evangelical Lutheran
of India,made the request officially in a paper given before a policy conference of the
an Church, which met late last month in Buck Hill Falls,Pa.

o said that help was needed, because there are only 68 government-operated birth
clinics in all of India; his Church, he said, has some 250,000 members in 2,300
gations.

w.Dr.Wilson, Church World Service director, recently stated that the world's population
l reach 6 billion in 40 years, unless the birth rate is curbed. By then, he added, those
ctions of the world, where people are even now starving to death, will have a population
centage increase of over 168% with even more resultant starvation-disease-and other
companying problems.

man Catholic viewpoints on the issue of Birth Control are well known and need not be
-emphasized here. Let it only be said: 'Why do Catholics kill Protestants in Latin
untries? Indirectly this is the most effective method of 'birth control', of course.
ses have even been known where individuals of the clergy have been 'sterilized'. Is this
official,approved,'artificial' method of birth control? - ED.

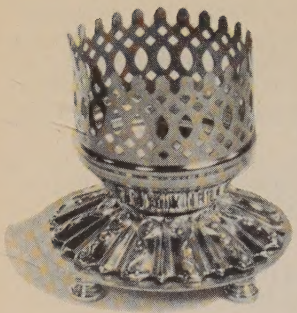
.T.B.Douglass said that the Church Missions of the Congregational Christian Church,
ich maintains the Ryder Hospital in Puerto Rico, might be interested in knowing that
vernment hospitals in Catholic Puerto Rico perform hundreds of sterilization opera-
ns annually; and that Ryder Hospital, itself, is now experimenting with contraceptive
ls with 'several hundred' women. The results are 'highly encouraging' he said.

esident Eisenhower's statement that the U.S. government would have nothing to do with
actual dissemination of birth control information, brought forth many comments from
otestant and Jewish leaders, who strongly condemned his stand as being against the
st interests of world needs. The President had especially said that he did not want to
erfere with the 'internal affairs' of other countries. One observer commented: if that
the case, why did he send troops into foreign lands? And why did his administration
rsist in nuclear tests, which, in the long run, might well produce involuntary 'birth
ntrol' on foreign peoples, which, in itself, could be construed as 'interference' with
ir 'internal affairs'.

Clergymen's National Advisory Committee, to promote birth control information, was
rmed last month. Bishop Pike (Protestant Episcopal) will serve as committee chairman.
e committee includes about 30 clergymen from major Protestant and Jewish groups.
shop Pike issued a statement, which said in part: 'Roman Catholic spokesmen concur
at the only major difference between Catholics and other religious groups....is on the
estion of methods' used in birth control techniques.

ather Gustave Weigel, S.J.,(prominent Roman Catholic theologian) said that Catholics
ould practice the teachings of the Catholic Church on birth control and let their non-
atholic brethren practice whatever they desire and not interfere with them in any way
hatsoever. In addition, he said, all Catholics should refrain from exercising any social
civic pressures on legislative, judicial, or governmental agencies to cause them to
nd to Catholic teachings.

hile some segments of practically every different religious Faith in the whole world
ve their own philosophies that come to grips with other bodies, Father Weigel's
dvice is the best advice given so far. In short, if every group will live and do as they
ee fit, but allow other peoples to live their own lives, free of persecution and duress,
e world will soon see the emergence of peace and understanding. Whether it be birth
ontrol, church vs state, education, etc., let each group keep religious and philosophical
iosyncrasies, peculiar to themselves, out of public life, at least wherever and whenever
interferes with the lives of others. - ED.



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